

FIRE FIGHTER CERTIFICATION RECIPROCITY INFORMATION

Office of the Arizona State Fire Marshal

Fire Service Certification in Arizona is voluntary. There are no state regulations requiring fire service personnel to become certified. However, departments may choose to make certification mandatory for their fire fighters. Individuals seeking certification must meet the criteria established for the Arizona Fire Service Certification System. Candidates for certification are tested for competency using the applicable NFPA standard.

The Office of the Arizona State Fire Marshal's reciprocity policy is based on a commitment to maintain the minimum standards of knowledge and skill competencies demonstrated by OSFM certified training programs. The OSFM will examine the certification credentials of individuals certified by other IFSAC accredited entities to determine if the certification is applicable in Arizona. This reciprocity policy applies only to OSFM certification levels accredited by IFSAC.

Only persons holding IFSAC Fire Fighter II Certification are eligible to test for reciprocity in Arizona.

Application Requirements

Applicants for reciprocity must:

- a) Be a current resident of Arizona (show an Arizona Driver's License).
- b) Pay a non-refundable application fee.
- c) Provide a copy of a Fire Fighter I&II certificate with IFSAC number and seal and proof of completed training.
- d) Provide a copy of a Hazardous Material – Operational Level certification or course completion certificate meeting the requirements of NFPA 472.
- e) Provide a copy of CPR certification (current BLS-C:CPR for Rescuers or equivalent)
- f) Provide a copy of EMC training/certification (a current Arizona EMS certification or national registry as a First Responder, EMT or Paramedic)
- g) Complete the OSFM Reciprocity Application and provide copies of applicable training records and certifications. Application information will be verified by the OSFM. Falsification or misrepresentation of training records, certifications, or other information will result in denial of the application.

Exam Requirement

Applicants for reciprocity must pass a written and practical skill certification exam. Applicants are provided one opportunity to pass the exams. Applicants who fail either the written and/or practical certification exams must complete an Arizona Fire Fighter I & II Certification Program to be eligible for certification.

PROGRAM QUALIFYING CRITERIA

Certification Programs submitted for Arizona Fire Fighter I&II Certification through reciprocity must meet or exceed existing Arizona program education and skill requirements for Fire Fighter I&II.

To qualify for reciprocity an IFSAC accredited Fire Fighter I&II program must meet the following criteria:

1. An accrediting IFSAC authority must demonstrate it reviewed, approved and/or coordinated the program.
2. The program must be IFSAC accredited under the 1992 or later NFPA Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications standard.
3. The program must have a syllabus that indicates class-meeting location, dates and times of class instruction.

4. The program classes must be conducted by instructors who are present in the classroom, or through the use of distance learning technology that permits the instructor to interact with students in real time.
5. Evaluators approved by the accrediting IFSAC authority must conduct or supervise evaluation of each candidate's practical skills. Evaluation of skills by a candidate's immediate or general supervisor does not meet OSFM certification program minimum requirements.

OSFM Reciprocity Application Processing Procedure:

- A. Upon receipt of an application:
 - 1) Verify applicant has submitted completed application form and all required course documentation.
 - 2) Verify proof of residency (Arizona driver's license)
 - 3) Receipt of \$50 application fee
 - 4) Copy of Fire Fighter I&II certificate and proof of completed training (to current standard)
 - 5) Copy of Hazardous Material- Operational Level certification or course completion certificate
 - 6) Copy of CPR certification (current BLS-C:CPR for Rescuers or equivalent)
 - 7) Copy of EMC training/certification (current Arizona certification or national registry for First Responder or EMT)
 - 8) Verify that certification information is valid with the issuing entity.
 - 9) After verification of certifications, the State Fire Training Director will review and approve the application package for reciprocity testing.
 - 10) The applicant will be notified, in writing, of the approval for reciprocity and provided information to schedule their certification testing.